



CATAWBA COUNTY

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CATAWBA COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES POSTS ANNUAL REPORT ONLINE

HICKORY — Catawba County Social Services has posted its Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Report on its website. The report includes highlights for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

The Annual Report may be downloaded by going to <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss>.

The report focuses on the innovative programs and practices of the department, which result in greater efficiency and improved service. It acknowledges the difficulties facing many citizens because of the lingering economic recession. Many programs have grown dramatically in the past 10 years because of increased need and changes to eligibility rules. For example, the number of people receiving Food Assistance (formerly known as Food Stamps) has grown from 7,929 in 2001-02 to 27,264 in 2010-11. Likewise, the number of county residents receiving Medicaid has grown from 23,117 a decade ago to 36,675 in 2010-11.

At the same time, the percent of the department's budget coming from county taxes has decreased, from 4.39 percent in Fiscal Year 2009-2010 to 3.9 percent in 2010-2011.

Social Services recently published a new informational tool called the Balanced Scorecard. This resource is located on the department's website and provides details about the many programs administered by Social Services. It may be accessed by going to <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/doing.asp> and clicking on the Balanced Scorecard link.

As part of its effort to provide services in an innovative manner, Catawba County Social Services has partnered with many area citizens, businesses and community organizations. Many of these partners have provided assistance to citizens in need by making a donation or volunteering.

The report concludes with a list of funds established by Social Services that accept donations from the public to provide for needs not fully met by government funding. For more information about these funds, or to donate online, go to <http://www.catawbacountync.gov/dss/donations.asp>.

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